

What will you choose to do?

- Write some number calculations using Roman numerals, for your friends to solve.
- Watch the closing credits of your favourite British TV programme. Can you find the Roman numerals at the end? In what year was the programme made?
- Find out the dates of birth of your family and friends and record them in Roman numerals.
- Research Roman life using books from your local library. Which were the most useful? Recommend the best one to your classmates.
- Find out if there are any Roman forts or settlements near where you live. Try to visit one with your family. Take lots of photographs of what you see.
- Look at Roman artefacts in detail at a local museum or on the British Museum website. Create a PowerPoint presentation, showing the artefacts that most interest you, and provide information about what they were used for.
- Look at holiday brochures and online information to find out about modern day Rome as a tourist destination. Which tourist attractions would you like to visit? What is the weather like? Where else would you like to go in Italy?
- Try to find a map of Roman Britain. Find out about some of the names of towns and cities. What are their modern names?
- Read a book or watch a film on a Roman theme. Write a review to let your classmates know what you thought about it.
- Write a diary entry as if you are a Roman soldier, a slave in a Roman villa or a Celtic child. What is your typical day like?
- Use an online translation tool to write well-known phrases in Latin, the language of the Romans. Perhaps you could write a birthday or seasonal greeting?
- Find some proverbs with Roman origins. Choose one and write it in your best handwriting with suitable illustrations. Can you explain to your family what it means or what advice it gives?
- Create a word search or crossword puzzle containing some of the key Roman vocabulary you have learnt. Bring your puzzle to school for your friends to solve.
- Make a model of a Roman villa using junk materials such as cereal boxes, coloured paper, tin foil and cardboard tubes. Use online images and pictures in non-fiction books to inspire the layout of your villa.
- Make a drawing of a Roman god or goddess. Write a fact file of information.
- Create a Celtic costume. Tartan pyjama bottoms and blankets may come in handy. You could borrow a brooch to secure your cloak or some Celt-inspired jewellery.

amphitheatre

A place where Romans went to watch gladiator fights, animal fights and executions.

aqueduct

A system of pipes, canals, tunnels and bridges that carried water into towns.

barbarian

The name Romans called people who didn't live in the Roman Empire.

Britannia

The name Romans called the area now known as Great Britain.

Caledonia

The name Romans called the area now known as Scotland.

cassis

A Roman helmet.

Celts

Tribespeople who lived in England over 2000 years ago.

centurion

A Roman army officer who was responsible for 100 soldiers.

chariot

A two-wheeled cart pulled by horses, which was used for ancient racing and battles.

Colosseum

An amphitheatre in Rome that was completed in approximately 70 AD and is still standing today.

emperor

The leader of the Roman Empire.

forum

A space in the middle of a town where markets and meetings were held.

Gaul

The name Romans called the area to the north and west of Italy.

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gladiator

A slave who was trained to fight other people or wild animals for public entertainment.

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gladius

A Roman sword.

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Hibernia

The name Romans called the area now known as Ireland.

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invader

A country or army that forcibly enters another country to take control of it.

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invictus

Undefeated.

.....

lanista

An experienced gladiator who trained others.

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Latin

The ancient Roman language.

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legion

A unit in the ancient Roman army of 3000 to 6000 men.

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mosaic

A picture, decoration or pattern made by arranging small pieces of coloured glass, tile or stone.

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pilum

A Roman throwing spear.

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pugio

A Roman dagger.

Roman Empire

The area of land that was taken over by the Roman army.

Roman numerals

Letters that ancient Romans used to write numbers. For example, I means 1 and V means 5.

Romans

A powerful ancient civilisation that ruled most of modern Europe for hundreds of years.

scutum

A Roman shield.

servus

A slave.

soliloquy

A speech in a play that the character says to themselves and the audience when alone.

standard

A symbol of Roman honour, which was usually a pole decorated with badges or flags.

taxes

Money taken from people to pay for the army, wars, palaces and roads.

via

The Latin word for road.



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The Celts and the Romans

[Life in Celtic Britain – BBC Bitesize](#)

A two-minute video depicting the Celtic way of life, as modelled through the project at Butser Ancient Farm in Hampshire.

[The Celts and Romans – Resources for History](#)

A useful resource documenting the transition of British rule from the Celts to the Romans. The interactive map includes a handy timeline.

[Roman Empire – BBC Bitesize](#)

A wide range of resources, including a brief summary of the history between the Celts of Britain and the invading Romans, short videos about weaponry and life as a Roman soldier, and a useful [Teacher's Resources](#) area.

[The Romans – BBC Hands on History](#)

A timeline showing the key milestones in the Roman invasion of Britain from AD 43.

[Who were the Romans? – BBC Hands on History](#)

An introduction to the Romans and how they changed Britain.

[Life as a Roman soldier – BBC Bitesize](#)

This four-minute video gives an insight into the daily routine of a Roman soldier. It explains why the Romans left Britain and what happened to those who stayed behind.

Queen Boudicca vs the Romans

[Boudicca \(died c.AD 60\) – BBC History](#)

A short introduction to the life of Boudicca.

[Romans: Rebellion – BBC Primary History](#)

A simple guide about the conflict between Queen Boudicca and the Romans.

[Boudicca, Queen of the Iceni – Thistle and Broom](#)

A detailed description about Boudicca's life, which includes Dio Cassius' description of Boudicca.

[Boudicca – BBC school radio](#)

A twenty-minute audio drama telling the story of Boudicca.

Spartacus

[Spartacus \(died 71 BC\) – BBC History](#)

A short introduction to the life of Spartacus.

[Ancient History: Spartacus and the Slave Rebellion – Historynet](#)

Scroll halfway down the page to find Kenneth P. Czech's article, which gives a detailed account of the life of Spartacus and his capture by the Roman army. It is suitable for teachers or could be adapted for children.

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[I'm Spartacus – YouTube](#)

A one-minute clip from *Spartacus*, the 1960 film directed by Stanley Kubrick. All the slaves claim to be Spartacus when they have been captured.

The life of a Roman gladiator

[Life of a Gladiator – Tribunes and Triumphs](#)

A brief summary of the life of a gladiator in Roman times. The text could be adapted for children.

[Gladiators: Heroes of the Roman Amphitheatre – BBC History](#)

A detailed account of the life of a gladiator and how Roman society embraced and celebrated gladiatorial combat.

[Famous Gladiators – Tribunes and Triumphs](#)

A brief summary of the lives of famous gladiators, including Spartacus, Flamma, Priscus, Verus and Emperor Commodus.

Food and diet of the Celts and the Romans

[Cooking with the Celts – Nicole Evelina](#)

A simple guide to what Celtic Britons might have eaten, depending on the time period and where the Celts lived.

[Food and drink brought to Britain by the Romans – BBC Bitesize](#)

This eight-minute video demonstrates how the Romans would have made a hamburger, how they made wine and the cooking of a three-course meal.

[Classical Roman Recipes – Three Owls](#)

Children can create their own Roman banquet using the various dishes and recipes based on typical Roman food.

[All About Roman Food – Roman Food](#)

A detailed account of ancient Roman food, drink and recipes, the history of Roman food and a brief summary of modern Roman food.

Everyday life

[Romans: Family and children – BBC Primary History](#)

An insight into the everyday life of a Roman family and children: school, writing equipment, diet and children's toys.

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[Day in the Life of a 10-year-old in Roman Britain – BBC Hands on History](#)

This three-minute video made by BBC Hands on History shows the experience of a child from a wealthy Roman family.

[Roman Numerals History, Chart and Converter – Roman Numerals](#)

Explains the system of using Roman numerals and includes a handy conversion chart.

[What did the Romans invent? – BBC Bitesize](#)

A one-minute video explaining features of modern society that the Romans either invented or developed.

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